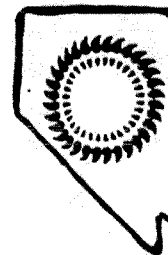


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY

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SYNOPSIS

Temperatures averaging near normal and no unusual weather happenings made for a rather boring month climate-wise. A storm near month's end brought the first significant snowfall to most mountain areas, and the first cool weather of the Winter Season to lower desert locations.

TEMPERATURE

Temperatures fell to near or a little below zero at month's end in the usually cool mountain areas where temperature inversions trap cold air in the valley bottoms, while nearby slopes are much warmer. Charleston had -8°, Manhattan -5°, Boies Ranch -3°, Mountain City -1°, and San Jacinto +2°. None of these were near the Nevada State record of -33° at Charleston in 1993.

High temperatures reached into the 80's at mid-month at a few Lake Mead and Colorado River locations, with 85° at Overton. Mesquite had 98° in 1944 for the November State record.

PRECIPITATION

Wettest locations were in or near the Sierra Nevada, with Don Keagy measuring 5.30" at Genoa, Ed Coppin 3.56" at Incline which is near normal, 3.33" at Aurora Mine and 2.97 at Pioche (3 times normal). Karen Rhoads had a twice normal 2.74" at Tuscarora.

On the dry side Goldfield and Boulder City had only 2/3 of normal with .27", Smokey Valley .33", or about 4/5 of normal, and San Jacinto .36, about 3/4 of normal. Only .39" fell at Goldpoint and .48" at Fallon Naval Air Station. With the exception of the high mountain areas Rey Nystrom measured 18" of snow at Jarbidge.

NOTE: If you think it doesn't very get that cold in Nevada, try January 1937 on for size! First, it stayed cold all month . There were 2 really cold periods - at the end of the first and third weeks. It was the coldest month on record in Nevada. Even though some of the January 1937 records were broken December 1990, it wasn't cold all month. Here are the "nippy stats" for January 1937. San Jacinto -50° on the 8th (still the State record), -43° Elko 21st, Battle Mountain -40°, Wells -38°, Winnemucca -36°, Eureka -35°, Caliente -31 8th, Carson City -27°, Goldfield, Lovelock, and Yerington -26°, Tonopah -13°, Las Vegas +8°, and Boulder City +11°. In the Reno area there were eight consecutive nights with below zero readings, bottoming out at -16° on the 8th. This was downtown-- at the usually colder airport the mercury fell to -27°! Imagine the troubles all this caused-- broken pipes, frozen cattle and sheep, frostbite, etc. It would be nice to see the -50 record broken, but it may not be worth it!

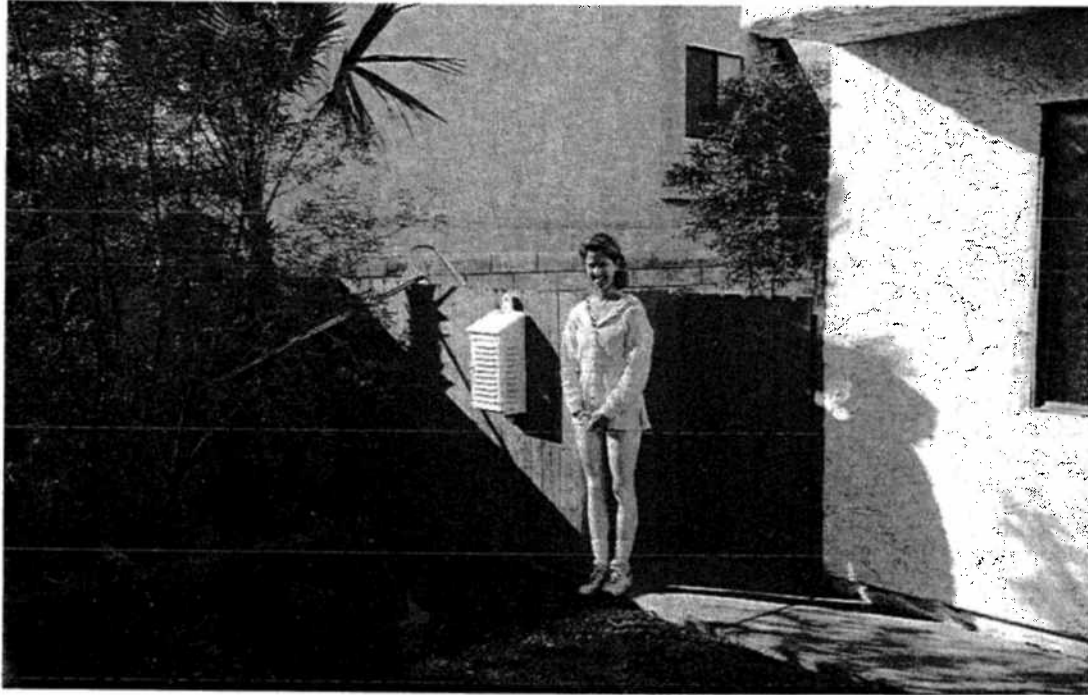
NOTE: What are the hottest and coldest temperatures recorded in Nevada by County?

<u>Washoe</u>	HOT 107°	Gerlach	July 1972
	COLD -42°	Vya	Dec. 1990
<u>Douglas</u>	HOT 108°	Minden	Aug. 1931
	COLD -24°	Minden	Dec. 1990
<u>Lyon</u>	HOT 110°	Fernley	July 1960
	COLD -26°	Yerington	Jan. 1937
<u>Storey</u>	HOT 100°	Virginia City	Aug. 1970
	COLD -12°	Virginia City	Dec. 1990
<u>Carson City</u>	HOT 107°	Carson City	July 1931
	COLD -27°	Carson City	Jan. 1937

On the cold side December 1990 had by far the most County records (8 of 17), while there was no clear cut winner on the warm side.

John W. James
State Climatologist

Lori James has been the weather observer in the Las Vegas suburban area of Spring Valley for the past nine years. Born and raised in the Portland Oregon area, she met her future husband , now attorney and Senator Mark James, at Lewis and Clark College. They have two children, Anne (9) and John (7).



Dick Engle holds sway in Goldpoint, one of Nevada's driest places. In fact, only 1" of moisture fell there during the 1995-96 Water Year! Dick has mined, prospected and lived in the area for the last 30 years. In addition, he is in charge of security for the old "almost ghost town" of Goldpoint, and never misses a day of weather recording. Thanks Dick!

